- (iv) "Poverty income standard" means the most recent poverty income guideline published by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, available as of July 1 of the taxable year.
- (2) For any eligible low income taxpayer, the subtraction under subsection (a) of this section includes the amount of earned income as defined under § 32(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.]
- (a) An individual may claim a credit against the income tax for a taxable year in the amount determined under subsection (b) of this section for earned income.
- (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection AND SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, the credit allowed under subsection (a) of this section is the lesser of:
- (i) 50% of the earned income credit allowable for the taxable year under § 32 of the Internal Revenue Code; or
 - (ii) the State income tax for the taxable year.
- (2) (1) AN INDIVIDUAL <u>WITH ONE OR MORE DEPENDENTS THAT MAY</u>
 <u>BE CLAIMED AS EXEMPTIONS</u> MAY CLAIM A REFUND IN THE AMOUNT, IF ANY, BY
 WHICH 15% 10% THE APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE SPECIFIED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF
 THIS PARAGRAPH OF THE EARNED INCOME CREDIT ALLOWABLE UNDER § 32 OF THE
 INTERNAL REVENUE CODE EXCEEDS THE STATE INCOME TAX FOR THE TAXABLE
 YEAR
- (II) THE APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE OF THE EARNED INCOME CREDIT ALLOWABLE UNDER § 32 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE TO BE USED FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING THE REFUND PROVIDED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH IS:
- 1. 10% FOR A TAXABLE YEAR BEGINNING AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1997 BUT BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2000;
- 2. 12.5% FOR A TAXABLE YEAR BEGINNING AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1999 BUT BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2001; AND
- 3. 15% FOR A TAXABLE YEAR BEGINNING AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2000.
- $\{(2)\}$ (C) An individual who files an income tax return for a period of less than 1 year:
- (1) is allowed from the amount under [paragraph (1) of this subsection] SUBSECTION (B)(1) OF THIS SECTION, a fraction:
- (i) the numerator of which is the number of months that the return covers; and
 - (ii) the denominator of which is 12; AND